



DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

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Telephone: 703-699-2950

September 19, 2005

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
135 Hart Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510-1501

Dear Senator Grassley:

Thank you for your letter of September 12, 2005, requesting clarification of the Commission's decisions as they affected Rock Island Arsenal, Illinois. Your questions with responses are provided below.

1. Please confirm whether this [document provided with the letter] is the COBRA run used by the BRAC staff in making its analysis and recommendation to the Commission. If not, please provide a copy of the COBRA run that was used by the Commission.

Answer 1: The complete COBRA run used by the Commission in its analysis and formulation of a recommendation regarding Rock Island Arsenal, which consisted of 165 pages, is enclosed (Attachment 1). Any assessment or evaluation of the costs and savings of this recommendation, or a specific action within the recommendation, must be made using the complete COBRA run. This ensures an appropriate contextual framework is maintained during the evaluation of the costs and savings. Mr. Bob Cook, Deputy Director, Review & Analysis, is available to provide assistance in navigating through and better understanding Attachment 1.

2. Based on the data used by the BRAC staff for its analysis, what is the cost or savings of the move of TACOM Rock Island to Detroit Arsenal considered separately from the 10 other components of the Depot-Level Reparable Management Consolidation recommendation and the move of inventory control point functions to DLA?

Answer 2: The cost (in terms of 20-Year Net Present Value) of the move of TACOM from Rock Island to Detroit Arsenal, when considered separately from the other components of the Depot-Level Reparable Management Consolidation recommendation and the move of inventory control point functions to DLA, is \$128.23 million.

3. In the public deliberations of the BRAC Commission, why did the BRAC staff omit the community's concerns about the net long-term cost of the TACOM move?

Answer 3: The Commission considered the community's concerns regarding the net

Chairman: Anthony J. Principi

Commissioners: The Honorable James H. Bilbray, the Honorable Philip E. Coyle III, Admiral Harold W. Gehman Jr., USN (Ret), the Honorable Jim Hansen, General James T. Hill, USA (Ret), General Lloyd Newton, USAF (Ret), the Honorable Samuel K. Skinner, Brigadier General Sue Ellen Turner, USAF (Ret)

Executive Director: Charles Battaglia

long-term cost of the TACOM move and in fact presented an issue regarding this concern (Attachment 2). However, the impact of the move on the net present value was minimal and the Commission's recommendation, as a whole, will increase military value (as described in selection criteria 1-4) and support transformation.

4. When asked by Commissioner Skinner about the payback for the TACOM move, why did the BRAC staff not reply with the payback for that specific action taken by itself?

Answer 4: Commissioner Skinner's question did not address the costs/savings of the specific action of the relocation of TACOM from Rock Island to Detroit Arsenal, but rather the impact of the increased military construction costs on the overall payback. Commissioner Skinner's response to the analyst's assessment of the impact confirms that the intent of the question was to ensure the revised military construction requirements were accounted for and did not have a significant impact on the payback of the recommendation, as confirmed in the transcript of the August 24, 2005, BRAC Commission hearing, afternoon session. A copy of the relevant portion of the transcript is enclosed (Attachment 2, page 119).

5. What information, if any, was provided to the Commission about the specific cost of the TACOM move before the vote on that issue? With your response, please provide a copy of the briefing paper given to the commissioners that included that TACOM Rock Island move.

Answer 5: Only verbal briefings were provided to the Commissioners prior to final deliberations and the briefings covered all issues associated with a given recommendation. These briefings always included the cost implications, as depicted within the COBRA model, for the recommendation as a whole. This approach was done for TACOM as part of the overall BRAC recommendation 176, Depot Level Reparable Procurement Management Consolidation (S&S 7).

6. On what basis did the Commission conclude in its report to the President that "... the overall Rock Island portion of this recommendation remained sound from a military value standpoint, as well as being cost effective"?

Answer 6: The Commission supported DoD's reasoning for this action since the impact of the move on the net present value was minimal and the recommendation, as a whole, will increase military value (as described in selection criteria 1-4) and support transformation.

7. In light of these facts, was DFAS Rock Island considered as one of the DFAS sites to remain open or gain personnel?

8. Why did the BRAC staff ultimately decide not to recommend DFAS Rock Island as a receiving site?

Answers 7 and 8: All of the DFAS Rock Island information provided to the Commission was considered in the final analysis. However, ultimately, DFAS Rock Island was not selected as a receiving site based on a determination guided by the final selection criteria and force structure plan.

9. Did the Commission receive any revised numbers for Depot Level Maintenance at Rock Island?
10. Was the Commission staff aware that the Army had revised numbers available?
11. If the Commission staff was aware of the revised numbers, why was this not mentioned in response to questions from commissioners?

Answers 9, 10, and 11: The Commission received revised answers to data call questions obtained from installations by DoD; however, this information updated the depot level maintenance workload only. The DoD recommendation addressed personnel numbers associated with capacity and capability, not just workload. The Commission considered all information received and attempted to address it appropriately.

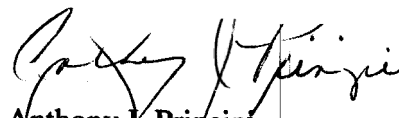
12. Why was the same logic and reasoning used for the Rock Island Arsenal CPOC recommendation not applied to the other recommendations that were made when it was assumed that the Rock Island Arsenal was going to close?

Answer 12: Each of the actions cited was developed and briefed by separate Joint Cross Service Groups supporting different initiatives. The Commission carefully considered the military value (as described in selection criteria 1-4) of the Rock Island Arsenal compared to other potential gaining installations throughout the process of review, analysis, and consultation.

Please note that the final report, hearing transcripts, briefing books and all correspondence received by the Commission may be reviewed in their entirety on our web page, www.brac.gov. Prior to the actual deliberations, the Commissioners received detailed information about Rock Island Arsenal and other military installations being considered for closure or realignment. This information came through DoD certified sources, base visits, regional hearings and, meetings with Community members. Additionally, each Commissioner was fully informed regarding the major issues in each recommendation through multiple exhaustive consultations with BRAC staff analysts.

I trust you will find this information responsive to your request and useful in your evaluation of the Commission's recommendations. We remain available and look forward to the opportunity to be of continuing assistance to you.

Sincerely,


Anthony J. Principi
Chairman

Attachment:

- 1) COBRA run ICW Recommendation 176
- 2) Final deliberation briefing slide
- 3) Excerpts from Aug. 24, 2005 BRAC Commission Final Deliberations